

# Lactation Room Opens on Capitol Hill

## AWHONN Instrumental in Room's Creation



A first-of-its-kind, state-of-the-art lactation room recently opened in the Russell Senate Office Building and is available for use by all Capitol Hill personnel. AWHONN's 2008 President-elect Barbara Moran, CNM, PhD, and 1999 President Leith Mullaly, RNC, MSN, ACCE, IBCLC were instrumental in helping get this project out of the starting blocks.

Spearheaded by the Office of Attending Physician of the U.S. Capitol, the project got under way in Apr. 2006. Dr. Moran, Ms. Mullaly and members of the office of the Attending Physician worked closely with the architect of the Capitol's office to create and design a space that would perfectly accommodate the needs of new working mothers on Capitol Hill.

On Nov. 7, 2006, the Attending Physician's office held a small, private ceremony honoring the invaluable assistance of Dr. Moran and Ms. Mullaly. Christopher Picaut, chief of staff, pre-

sented a certificate of acknowledgment on behalf of Dr. John F. Eisold, Rear Admiral, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy, to Dr. Moran, who accepted it on behalf of AWHONN. The certificate states, "Your assistance has been invaluable in creating the first lactation suite on Capitol Hill. Mothers receive peace of mind when they are surrounded by state-of-the-art equipment and the professional atmosphere that you helped create. With little notice, you availed yourself to our office and provided ideas and recommendations, which created a benchmark facility that has been lauded by staff and Members alike.

Lactation rooms are helpful in easing the transition from maternity leave back into the workplace, and they can demonstrate an employer's dedication to work-life balance.

Your efforts have resulted in a standard for the future and will ensure that mothers can continue to care for their family while they are on Capitol Hill.”

Of her involvement, Dr. Moran stated, “It is so important for breastfeeding moms to have a private comfortable environment to nurse and pump. Lactation rooms help encourage breastfeeding for the recommended six

months, which will lead to healthier, strong babies.” She added, “Lactation rooms are helpful in easing the transition from maternity leave back into the workplace, and they can demonstrate an employer’s dedication to work-life balance. The lactation room on Capitol Hill shows the Federal government is leading by example. I am so honored to have been a part of this.”

### Judith Poole is 2007 AWHONN President

Judith H. Poole, PhD, RNC, a nurse manager in Birthing Care and Special Maternity Care at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, NC, is the 2007 AWHONN President. Poole is also a consultant with the Professional Education Center in Chico, CA. Prior to joining Presbyterian Hospital, she was a perinatal outreach coordinator in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. She was among the Great 100 in nursing in North Carolina in 1992.

“It is a privilege and an honor to be elected President of an organization that does so much to advance the health of women and newborns,” said Poole. “Nurses are taking on more and more important roles in improving patient safety, educating patients, conducting groundbreaking research and developing and implementing guidelines and standards of care. I look forward to helping AWHONN stay at the forefront of this work.”

Poole is also a member of the American Nurses Association, the North Carolina Nurses Association, the Southern Nurses Research Society and Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. She has published widely on women’s cardiovascular health and various aspects of maternal-child nursing.



“AWHONN has already benefited greatly from Judith’s expertise. Our Board of Directors has been well-served by Judith’s clinical and leadership knowledge during her years as a member of the Board,” said AWHONN Interim Executive Director Karen Peddicord. “Her continued leadership will help us make AWHONN an even greater force for improving health care for women and newborns.”

Poole is certified in Inpatient Obstetric Nursing and in High Risk and Critical Care Obstetrics. She is also certified as a perinatal nurse and a childbirth educator. Poole holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, a Master of Nursing from the University of South Carolina and a PhD in Nursing Science from the University of South Carolina.

## 2007 Board of Directors Seated

*In January, the 2007 AWHONN Board of Directors was officially seated at the 2007 AWHONN Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. The 2007 Board is as follows:*

### OFFICERS

**President: Judith H. Poole, PhD, RNC**, a perinatal nurse specialist at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, NC. • **President-elect: Barbara A. Moran, PhD, CNM**, an assistant professor at The Catholic University of America and a certified nurse midwife with Andersen & Maanavi, Ltd., in Annandale, VA. • **Secretary/treasurer: Julie Wehmeyer, MN, RNC**, the director of Women’s & Children’s Services at Overlake Hospital Medical Center in Bellevue, WA.

### DIRECTORS

**Susan Albrecht, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate professor of Maternal-Child Health Nursing and associate dean for Student/Alumni Services and Development at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. • **Kim Armour, CNP, APN, RDMS, MSN**, nurse practitioner and manager in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Central DuPage Hospital in Wheaton, IL. • **Dodi Gauthier, RNC, MEd**, coordinator of Perinatal Outreach and Support for the Cottage Health System in Goleta, CA. • **Joanne Goldbort, DSN**, director of Maternal and Child Services at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, IN. • **Elizabeth Jordan, DNSc, RNC**, assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, in Baltimore, MD. • **Patricia R. McCartney, PhD, RNC**, clinical professor at the University of Buffalo School of Nursing in Buffalo, NY. • **Linda M. Schofield, MSN**, director of Women’s, Infants’ and Children’s Services at Roper St. Francis Healthcare in Charleston, SC. • **Kathleen Thorman, PhD, RN**, executive director of Nursing for Women at St. John’s Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis, MO. • **Joan Edwards, RNC, MN, CNS**, will serve on the Board as an ex-officio member and chair of the Nominating Committee. Edwards is an assistant clinical professor at Texas Women’s University in Houston, TX, and a perinatal educator at HCA Gulf Coast Division.

*The AWHONN Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the organization’s mission, purpose, values and direction. The board also ensures AWHONN’s accountability to its members, donors and the broader public by overseeing the organization’s strategic planning, evaluation, programs, services and utilization of resources.*